O P E CON SUBSTITUTE

APPLICANTS:

SERIAL NO. :

PATENT THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PETER BOLDUAN

09/823,728 GROUP: 1762 1741

10.31.01

FILED:

MARCH 30, 2001 FILTER DEVICE AND PROCESS

Leader

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

TC 1700

Sir.

Applicant wishes to bring to The attention of the Patent Examiner the reference-listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and attached thereto. Enclosed German reference DE 30 30 097 was cited in the German priority application. It concerns a filter device having an outer electrical conducting support hose for avoiding electro-static loading. In contrast to the present invention, the membrane filter elements are not grounded. It is respectfully requested that the foregoing Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) be incorporated into the official file of the present patent application. Because this IDs is being filed before a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that no fee is required. However, if a fee should be required for this IDs, the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any required fee, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2468.

Respectfully submitted, PETER BOLDUAN

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ERF/llv Enclosures:

Enclosures: Form PTO-1449, one (1) reference I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.f. 20231, on Jung 8, 2001.

Lisa L. Vulpis